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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **INS Arrests Owners of Riverside Area Farm** *Agency probe reveals farm's workers subjected to hazardous conditions*

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif.— Special Agents from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) arrested three of the four owners of Nguyen Farms this morning near the city of Perris in Riverside County. The three, Long Thanh Do, Tony Tho Nguyen, and Mary Chin Nguyen, were arrested for harboring and concealing aliens; the fourth owner, Sau Thi Nguyen, is still at large.

"This is a situation where the owners were keeping the people working on their farm under absolutely horrible conditions," said Irene Martin, Officer in Charge of the INS' San Bernardino sub-office. "They were working six days a week for less than minimum wage and forced to live in an area surrounded by open sewers, human waste, and dangerous chemical exhaust."

In addition, Martin added, many of the farm workers were also required to work in a wood shop on the farm. In the wood shop the workers were exposed to chemicals and solvents without proper safety equipment. The county of Riverside has closed down the wood shop.

Last May the INS arrested nine undocumented workers at the Nguyen Farms; those nine will serve as material witnesses against the owners.

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